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Inside this issue



**Commander's
 Message** Pg 2



**Thule's First Storm of
 '07** Pg 6



Thule Awards Pg 7-10

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Greenlandic Police Officer and K-9 Train at Thule

By Staff Sgt Michael Frankovich,
 821st Security Forces Squadron

A Greenlandic Police Officer and her K-9 visited here to perform building searches and training exercises Jan 4 through Jan 8.

Sara Johansen and her K-9 companion Ali arrived at Thule from Nuuk, in the southern part of Greenland by helicopter for the four day visit.

Johansen, a 26 year old Greenland Police Officer, specializes in the handling and training of search and rescue and narcotic sniffing dogs. Her K-9 is a three and half year old male black German shepherd named Ali. They both reside in Qaqortoq, a small village near Greenland's capital city, Nuuk.

Ali is primarily used for sniffing out narcotics but is also trained for search and rescue missions as well.

"Ali is trained to find several different narcotics to include hashish, marijuana, cocaine and prescription pills," said Johansen. "He can also be used for search and rescue missions to locate missing persons."

Ali is a one of a kind canine in many ways. He is the only police working German shepherd that is black in color in Greenland.

Unlike American police dogs, Ali is not trained to attack, therefore, does not need to be on a leash when he is working. Also, most American police dogs are trained to sit when

they find something. Ali is trained a little differently, if he locates something he continually barks.

Even with the severe temperatures in Greenland, the cold does not affect his sniffing capabilities. Ali can work for about 30 minutes but then has to be given a 15 minute break. This enables his sniffing capability to be at max performance when he is working.



Photo by Staff Sgt Michael Frankovich

Sara Johansen, a Greenlandic Police Officer and her K-9 Ali search the Thule post office. The duo visited here to perform building searches and training exercises.

Throughout their stay at Thule, Johansen and Ali were escorted by John Hansen, Danish Police Inspector and Staff Sgt Michael Frankovich, 821st Security Forces Squadron.

"Johansen and Ali used Thule for several different training exercises as well as real world searches," said Capt. Frank Reyes, 821st Security Forces Squadron commander.

Continued on page 4

Military Professionals Don't Get a Preseason

By Col Edward Fienga,
821st Air Base Group commander

Achieving significant professional milestones is a product of hard work, dedication and the proper attitude. For example, Tiger Woods just won his seventh consecutive PGA Tour event. While watching the Buick Invitational tournament—and having just a little bit of weather envy—the announcers reminded me that over the course of his 10-year professional career Tiger Woods has completely re-tooled his golf swing at least three times. There might be something to this continuous improvement process which he has so passionately embraced: his performance under the sunny skies near San Diego was his 47th official tour event victory.

One doesn't rise to such a level of skill, proficiency, or expertise, or enjoy such prolific professional success, without being singularly focused on mastering the individual myriad aspects which collectively form the professional skill set, regardless of the chosen profession. We, in the uniformed service to our country, have a professional skill set as well, the individual elements which also require periodic maintenance, recurring training and occasional retooling. Contrary to other professions, such as athletes who can retool during an off-season, preseason, spring training or exhibition season, as military professionals we do not enjoy such a luxury. In effect, we and others, namely the public we serve, expect our card-carrying members to exhibit certain standards of excellence all year long.

As such, I offer the observations below to help keep you, and our proud association, at mid-season's form, if not in a perennial position to "win the tournament." Keep in mind, these recommendations help form but one of many elements of your professionalism.

1. Salute habitually. Remember, the salute is a formal greeting, to avoid a salute by looking or walking away, to include saluting the appropriate vehicles, is both a form of disrespect and an indelible negative snapshot of your professionalism. If you are encumbered with items in your hands, face the individual or vehicle, come to attention and render a verbal greeting.

2. Use "yes, Sir" or "no, Ma'am."

Similar to the salute, to not use "sir" or "ma'am" when appropriate leaves a stubborn stain on your professionalism. Use the appropriately respectful salutation and closing (i.e., "Very Respectfully, or "VR") in electronic correspondence as well. Remember, "yeah" is not "yes," like a wave is not a salute.

3. Stand up when approached by a more senior Airman. Regardless of rank—NCO, CGO or GO—if the approaching Airman is more senior than you, even if just by time in grade, show your respect by stopping what you are doing and standing. This is applicable in the office setting as well as in social settings. Conversely, if you are the more senior Airman, let the junior Airman know when to sit down or to continue doing what they were doing when you entered the area.

4. Control, mute, silence your electronic devices. Untimely use—during a staff meeting, commander's call, to name just a couple of examples—of cell phones, hand-held radios, Blackberrys, etc. is entirely inappropriate.

5. Refrain from engaging in non-germane discussions during a more senior Airman's meeting. Like the electronic devices, take the discussion out of the room if it is absolutely necessary.

6. Be respectful to your flag and the flags of other countries. We very much work in an international environment. Don't diminish your professionalism through disrespect (talking, noisemaking, continuing to drive your vehicle, etc.) to the symbols of those nations during Honor Guard ceremonies and flag-raising or lowering details.

7. When talking or briefing, wait until the more senior member finishes the question or thought before providing your response. By remaining patient you may learn something from the discussion, you will have more time to formulate your response, and you may determine that a response is not necessary at all.

8. Should you question a decision of a more senior Airman in your chain of command, address it with that Airman behind closed doors, not in a public place among your peers and subordinates. If you have legitimate reasons for questioning a decision by a more senior Airman outside or well above your immediate chain of com-

mand, bring those reasons to the attention of your commander. Nothing good can come from speaking badly about your leadership in public, in the newspaper, on the radio, through electronic mail or on TV.

9. Treat your fellow Airmen—and humans—with dignity, especially those junior to you. Speaking badly to or treating rudely Airmen who work for your boss is comparable to treating your boss with disrespect. Likewise, when providing feedback to the supervisor for someone outside your line of leadership responsibility (perhaps to someone more senior than you), be sensitive to the fact that you may appear to be criticizing that supervisor's leadership.

10. Don't walk or stand with hands in your pockets. It is a social taboo in many cultures, including the military. If your hands are cold, wear gloves.

11. Remember the new Air Force Physical Training uniform is a uniform like any other. Customs and courtesies and professional requirements (see 1-10 above) apply when wearing the PT uniform.

12. Carefully protect privileged, but unclassified information. Should you receive an e-mail, or be included in discussions about sensitive, close-hold information (promotion lists, assignments, disciplinary actions, operations, etc.), don't prove that you cannot be entrusted with the responsibility to withhold that information from public release—to include among your close friends—until the most senior Airman responsible determines it can be released.

13. Embrace the attitude of continuous improvement and continuous learning about your profession. Nothing more shows you care for and respect the profession you joined than to adhere to and enforce its customs and courtesies, not only when it is convenient, but at all times.

Unlike the golf analogy, military professionalism is a team sport. So, be receptive to picking up professional pointers from others who have lessons to share, and provide assists to your colleagues. It takes time to be the consummate professional, but it also takes—like Tiger has shown us—a perseverance to perpetual development. The expertise you develop in this area will have residual benefit in forming your collective attributes of professionalism.

AF News on location

Two Air Force News members visited Thule Air Base last week to get a glimpse into what makes Thule Air Base one of the most unique bases in the U.S. Air Force.

Michael Tolzmann, Air Force and Army Hometown News, and Tech Sgt Steve German, Air Force News broadcaster, spent the week interviewing and photographing Thule Airman and their fellow base members to tell their story to the world.

While here Tolzmann, with the help of several local people, compiled the following observations that makes Thule a one of a kind ...

Thule Air Base facts:

- The base has no fence or gates.
- No roads lead to the base.
- Thule is so far north, a compass there points westward toward the magnetic North Pole.
- Placed over the continental U.S., the island of Greenland would stretch from the southern tip of Texas to north of the Canadian boarder.
- Thule's latitudinal equivalent in the southern hemisphere is located on the continent of Antarctica.
- Thule's latitude is more than 500 miles further north than the most northern point in Alaska.
- During the winter months, arrival to the base can only be accomplished by air or dog sled, and supplies are flown in.
- Thule Air Base provides resupply support for smaller non-U.S. military sites both in Greenland and Canada, and for several arctic scientific studies.
- Arctic foxes, arctic hares and seals are commonly seen at the base.
- The base has the Air Force's only deep-water sea port, a pier and a tug boat.
- A public address loudspeaker system is located in every building on the base to announce a storm alert during the winter storm season.
- Heated survival shelters are placed at short intervals along the outlying roads at Thule.
- During the 1960s, Thule was populated by more than 10,000.
- Today, the base has a population of approximately 600, made up of American Airmen, Canadian and Danish military members, and civilians from Greenland, Denmark and the U.S.
- Three glaciers meet in a fjord bay near

the base.

- Thule Air Base is the only Air Force base with a white runway. This is to prevent it from warming in the summer sun and melting the permafrost ground below.
- Buildings here sit above ground to prevent the permafrost from melting below. If the permafrost melted, the building would sink.
- Exterior building walls are a foot-and-a-half or more thick. Windows are small. Exterior building door handles are large and raise upward to open the door, preventing a polar bear from opening a door by applying its weight downward on a handle.
- Polar bears are occasionally seen on base.
- The base creates its own power and heat and is self-sufficient. It has redundant power and heat sources.
- A typical walk-in deep freezer door is found here as the exterior door to a building.
- Greenland is the largest island in the world.
- More than 80 percent of Greenland is covered by a permanent ice cap. -- Antarctica is the only other location in the World where a massive ice cap is found.
- Scientists estimate that a complete melting of the Greenland ice cap would cause the water level of all the world's oceans to rise 20 feet.
- Native Greenlandic people, called Inuits, have lived in the area for more than 900 years.
- The nearest village is located 75 miles away, and no roads are found between Thule and the village.
- During the summer, from April 23 to Aug. 19, the sun never sets but remains above the horizon.

Michael Tolzmann, Air Force and Army Hometown News, takes pictures of the bay from the Air Traffic Control tower.



Photo by Tech Sgt Steve German

- During the winter, from Nov. 1 to Feb. 10, the sun never rises.
- In the summer, ships dock here and supply the base with enough fuel and other supplies to last the winter.
- Sunlight lamps or 'happy lamps' are found throughout the base and used during the period of total darkness.
- The base has no trees.
- The base has a grassless nine-hole golf tournament.
- During the summer, people here conduct a 'polar bear' swim in the bay while icebergs float nearby.
- The base has its own rock band, comprising officers and enlisted and one civilian.
- The community center has a cappuccino bar, Internet access and a free arcade equipped with pinball, air hockey, foosball, and video games.
- The all-ranks service club has European-styled dining and a banquet hall with a stage for live performances.
- The gym is open 24 hours a day, and has saunas, a water massage bed, a tanning bed, an exercise pool and free fruit.
- A free taxi service is available base-wide 24 hours a day.

Tech Sgt Steve German, Air Force News broadcaster, records footage of the DC-8 arrival.



Photo by Capt Elizabeth Paul



Photo by John Hansen

Staff Sgt Michael Frankovich, 821st Security Forces Squadron, Sara Johansen, a Greenlandic Police Officer and her K-9, Ali, pose for a picture during a recent dorm search. Johansen and Ali visited Thule to conduct building searches and training exercises earlier this month.

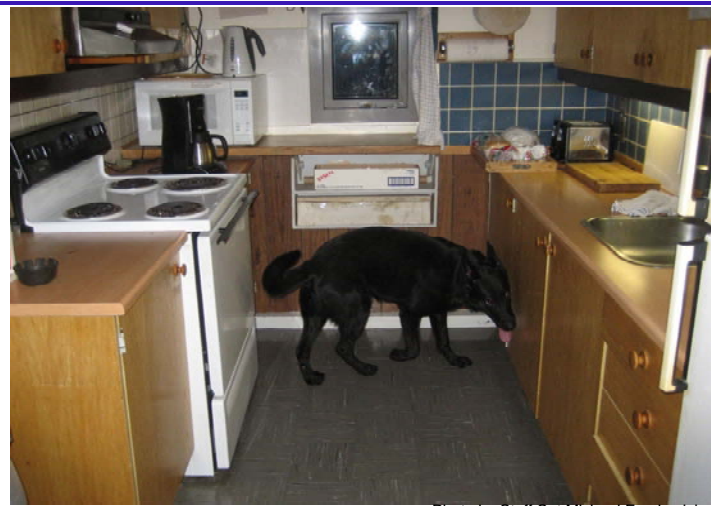


Photo by Staff Sgt Michael Frankovich

A Greenlandic police dog, a black German Sheppard named Ali conducts a narcotic sweep in one of the dorms here during a recent visit. Sara Johansen, a Greenlandic Police Officer and Ali's handler, visited Thule to perform building searches and training exercises.

Continued from page 1

"They conducted building sweeps throughout main base and even in our priority level 1 and 3 resources."

During their four day visit Johansen and Ali searched empty buildings, and the air terminal including the DC-8 which arrived during their visit. Ali was able to search incoming and outgoing passengers' hand carried items as well as luggage. He was also transported out to

the flight line to conduct searches of the passenger area and cargo bays of the DC-8 and the Shuttle Bus.

The duo even conducted narcotic sweeps in the 821st Headquarters, APO/Post Office as well as the base fitness center. Other buildings they searched included several dormitories. The searches included several dayrooms, hallways and individual offices when personnel were present.

"We had a great visit from our

Greenlandic counterparts," said Captain Reyes. "It not only gave Ms. Johansen and Ali some excellent training but it was also a unique training experience for our Security Forces Airmen and provided a capability that we don't always have available here."

Since the visit went so well with Inspector Hansen, he has extended the invitation for them to return to Thule later this year for further training and drug reduction opportunities.

Security Forces Notes

**Vehicle block heaters
(if equipped)
will be plugged in
(if available)
when parked.**

**Do not leave vehicle
idling for more than 20
minutes unless the
temperature is
-13 degrees Fahrenheit
or below.**

(Information taken from SFOI 24-301)

Alaska ANG "Gas and GO"



Photo by Michael Tolzmann

On their way home from Bagram, Afghanistan, Airmen from the Kulis Air National Guard Base, Alaska, exit their C-130 Hercules during a "gas and go" stop here Jan. 23.

Latest revision signed to space operations doctrine

by Lt. Col. Mary-Claire McCarthy
Headquarters Air Force Doctrine Center

The Air Force chief of staff has approved the latest revision to Air Force Doctrine Document 2-2, *Space Operations*, outlining the operations of space power.

"As a keystone doctrine document, it emphasizes the force multiplying and enabling nature of space operations," said Gen. T. Michael Moseley.

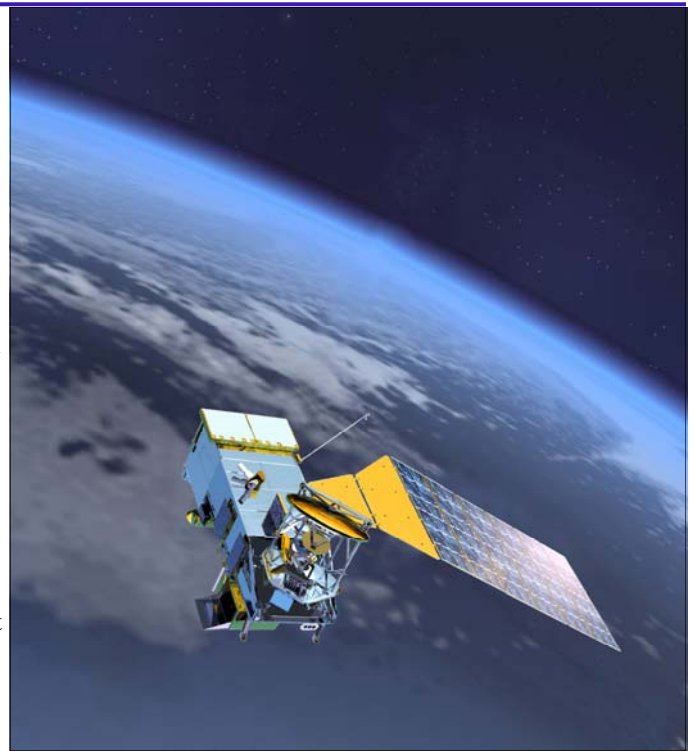
"It is our job as Airmen to operate and organize space forces based on the premises articulated in this doctrine," the general said.

This latest revision updates Air Force space doctrine based on recent operational experience. Some of the highlights of the document include the definition of the space coordinating authority, the joint force air and space component commander's role as the supported commander for counterspace operations, and the responsibility of the director of space forces. The document describes space

integration considerations for planners based on observations during recent military operations, and explains the space air and space operations center, which now operates as the joint space operations center.

Space forces support the joint force-intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; command and control; positioning, navigation and timing; weather services; counterspace; communications; and spacelift. Airmen trained in the operation and employment of space operational concepts and forces integrate air and space power with joint forces on a daily basis.

This space operations doctrine has been updated significantly since the pre-



Courtesy image/Northrop-Grumman

The Air Force chief of staff has approved the latest revision to Air Force Doctrine Document 2-2, *Space Operations*, outlining the operations of space power.

vious publication of AFDD 2-2 in 2001. It describes the integration of space power across the range of military operations. Specifically, it recommends a command and control construct for space operations found to be extremely effective in recent operations.



Meet BAE System's New Thule Site Manager: Max Carnley

BAE Systems new site manager arrived here Jan 26.

Max Carnley, a retired Air Force Master Sergeant from Lampasas, TX, joined the BAE Systems team earlier this year and was sent directly to Thule to manage the 39 BAE Systems employees here.

Carnley enlisted in the Air Force in 1981 and became a Secure Telecommunications Systems Maintainer. During his tour of service Carnley was stationed at Carswell Air Force Base, Tx, Yangson Air Base Korea, Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., Aviano Air Base, Italy, Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, and Clear Air Base, Alaska.

Once Carnley retired from the Air Force he did not stay away long and came back as a DoD contractor maintaining Biological Warfare Defense Equipment. His traveling did not stop with the military either. During his employment as a DoD contractor Carnley deployed twice to the Middle East in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom as well as South Korea.

As the site manager for BAE Systems Carnley is responsible for the 24/7 operation and maintenance of the Solid State Phased Array Radar System at BMEWS Site I, military satellite communications, the Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory, local area network and sensitive communication.

Promotions

Photos by 1Lt Charles Holmes



Above: Tech Sgt Chris Boston and Staff Sgt David Palmer, 821st Security Forces Squadron, prepare to pin on Airman Christian Cuevas-Velez, 821st Security Forces Squadron, during his promotion ceremony Dec 28.

Right: Airman First Class Angela Ortiz and Artem Kamalov, 821st Security Forces Squadron, prepare to pin on Airman First Class Pedro Pita, 821st Security Forces Squadron, during his promotion ceremony Feb 1.



Above: Tech Sgt Matthew Mattfeld and Master Sgt Thomas Kuhn, 821st Support Squadron, pin on Airman Kyleer Tout, 821st Support Squadron, during her promotion ceremony Dec 28.



Thule's First Storm of '07

Although the storm Jan 24 did not go down in any record books it was Thule's first big storm of the season.

The base went into weather condition Charlie around 3 a.m. officially closing down the base except for essential movement. The 12th Space Warning Squadron went to weather condition Delta during the early morning hours as well.

The Storm Control Center was activated at 5 a.m. and had at least two officers working there throughout the storm.

At the height of the storm temperature rose to about -3 degrees Celsius or 27 degrees Fahrenheit and wind speeds varied on and off base. The highest winds recorded on base were



74 miles per hour or 119 kilometers per hour, while off base the winds were recorded at 89 miles per hour or 143 kilometers per hour.

Once the winds had significantly died down, the Greenland Contractors jumped into action clearing the roads to make sure people would not get stuck in snowdrifts and those who had been stranded at work could be relieved. They also began preparing food for everyone who had been stuck in their dorms.

About 16 hours after the base went to weather condition Charlie, the storm was downgraded and people were once again free to move about the base.

(Information on the storm from Greenland Contractors Weather Forecasters. Photos by Michael Tolzmann)



Quarterly Award Winners

Photos by 1Lt Charles Holmes

**Air Base Group NCO
of the Quarter**



**Tech Sgt Kevin McGarry,
821st Support Squadron**

**Air Base Group SNCO
of the Quarter**



**Senior MSgt Vincent Marler,
821st Support Squadron**

**Air Base Group CGO
of the Quarter**



**Capt Philip Prater,
821st Support Squadron**

Air Base Group Airman of the Quarter
Airman Pedro Pita, 821st Security Forces Squadron
(Unable to attend Award Ceremony)

**Team Thule Airman
of the Quarter**



**A1C Joseph Donahue,
821st Security Forces Squadron**

**Team Thule SNCO
of the Quarter**



**MSgt Mark Valerio,
821st Support Squadron**

**Air Base Group
Ceremonial Guards-
man of the Quarter**



**Senior Airman
Amanda Walters,
821st Security
Forces Squadron**

Team Thule NCO of the Quarter
Staff Sgt Athena Sanders, 12th Space Warning Squadron
(Unable to attend Award Ceremony)

Outstanding Airman of the Year Ceremony



Photo by Capt Mark Oden



Outstanding Airman of the Year Senior Airman Laura Flores, 821st Support Squadron

As an administrative specialist and squadron fitness monitor, she was the energizing force behind Thule's innovative fit to fight program, incorporating body pump, spinning, and fun athletic competitions to boost the morale for all airmen. An integral part of the Thule Response Group, her efforts were key to the 821st Support Squadron's "Excellent" rating in the 2006 Air Force Space Command Operational Readiness Inspection.



Outstanding NCO of the Year Tech Sgt Kevin McGarry 821st Support Squadron

This outstanding Air Traffic Control NCO led operations during Boxtop and Brilliant Ice, assuring the safety of 204 sorties, and the delivery of 480 thousand pounds of cargo and 1.6 million gallons of fuel. He also integrated a 1 million dollar air traffic control tower simulator, designed 8 scenarios and trained 4 administrators, reducing task completion times 70 percent.



Outstanding SNCO of the Year Senior Master Sgt Vincent Marler 821st Support Squadron

As the Complex Chief Controller and the 821 Support Squadron senior advisor, he led his squadron preparation operations for the 2006 Air Force Space Command's Operational Readiness and Unit Compliance Inspections. He delivered with an "Excellent" rating, five professional teams, five professional performers and 18 best practices. He orchestrated the Thule Air Base's response to 36 short to no-notice transport and refueling missions in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Outstanding Airman of the Year Ceremony



Photos by Capt Mark Oden



Outstanding First Sergeant of the Year
Master Sgt James Albini
821st Air Base Group

He is charged with representing the interests of enlisted personnel to the unit commanders while ensuring that all members observe air force standards, command and unit policies, and institutional values". He truly is the commander's right-hand warrior. This hard charging First Sergeant created Thule's first ever Airman's Attic and was Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney McKinley's first choice to lead Pacific Air Force Command's 12 Outstanding Airman of the Year Banquet.



Outstanding CGO of the Year
Captain Robert Buchanan
821st Support Squadron

This CGO doubled the annual exercise quota in preparation for the Air Force Space Command Inspector General Operational Readiness Inspection; the program was noted as a "Strength." He teamed with 21st Space Wing to complete nine contract modifications bringing the contract into regulatory compliance. Still not done, he built a streamlined QAE process making future reviews and audits fully transparent. Finally, he volunteered his off-duty time to serve as OIC, Thule Color Guard, leading details, overseeing practices, and capturing then formalizing an enduring process.



Official Photos by Staff Sgt Thomas Moreno



Annual Team Thule Awards

Photos by Capt Mark Oden



Team Thule Award nominees and winners represent the 821st Air Base Group, 12th Space Warning Squadron and Detachment 3, 22d Space Operations Squadron. They model Team Thule's mission to effect space superiority through Air Force core value's-based installation operations, our vision of transforming space operations and its support at DoD's northernmost installation. They also model the principles that guide us: anticipation, balance, communication and action!



**Team Thule Airman
of the Year**

**Senior Airman Heidi Miller,
821st Security Forces Squadron**



**Team Thule SNCO
of the Year**

**Master Sgt Gregory Fournier,
821st Support Squadron**



**Team Thule CGO
of the Year**

**Capt Elizabeth Paul,
821st Air Base Group**

**Team Thule NCO of the Year
Tech Sgt James McManus,
12th Space Warning Squadron
(Unable to attend)**

THULE ENTERTAINMENT

The Lindsay Wynn Band

Photos by Staff Sgt Thomas Moreno



Thule rang in the New Year with a blow out party at the Top of the World Club featuring the Lindsay Wynn Band from Austin, Tx.

Lindsay Wynn, a petit blond from Austin, has an incredible blend of music and soul. Add to that drummer, Richard Calderon, a highly skilled percussionist enhancing the band's rhythmic drive with an eclectic

blend of musical styles from jazz to Latin-funk to drum corps. Then add Bassist, Chad Repsher, holding up the bottom end with precision talent, and finally guitarist, Isaac Berumen who has been playing guitar since age 11.

The result is a group of finely tuned, close-knit ambitious musicians with the passion, unique style and the delivery which wowed the Thule community. The band performed three concerts at the Top of the World Club during the week long visit here. Including an acoustic set in the casual bar where members from the local band, TOBIT, joined in.

(Information taken from the Armed Forces Entertainment website <http://www.armedforcesentertainment.com/>)



T.O.B.I.T.

The Only Band In Town, otherwise known as T.O.B.I.T. debuted their newest song sets Jan 26. The band, made up of officer, enlisted and civilians, rocked the club with their renditions of the latest rock-n-roll with a couple of classics thrown in.



Photos by Staff Sgt Alisha Miles